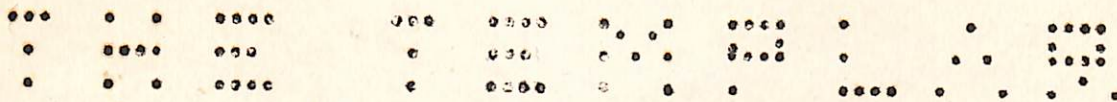


"TEMPLARY IS THE NEW TESTAMENT OF MASONRY"



A FRIENDLY VOICE OF TEMPLAR INTEREST TO KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Official publication of The Grand Commandery of Knights Templars
and The Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

ROBERT GARDINER WILSON, Jr.
Grand Commander

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Issued Monthly

SIR KNIGHTS OF MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND;

Deeply appreciative of your confidence in electing me as your Grand Commander for the current Templar Year, it is my earnest hope that together we shall succeed in accelerating the momentum already effected by my active predecessor. I am also grateful for the continued willingness of Rt. Em. Sir Frank H. Wilson and Rt. Em. Sir George A. Weeks to assume further issues of "THE TEMPLAR."

The admonition to "Let your light so shine that they may see your good works," is valueless if the light is "hidden under a bushel." Where a cause is just, an affirmative effort to attract public interest through sustained and planned publicity is well rendered. No false sense of modesty or coyness ever won adherents to any great movement. He, who died on the cross, sent disciples forth throughout the world. Two of the most powerful moving forces to focus public attention on the evils of human slavery in America was the "liberator" of William Lloyd Garrison and a great book by Harriet Beecher Stowe.

Unless it is a propaganda sheet, the average newspaper isn't published to disseminate news; it is published to make money from advertising; the public buys it to read news. Most local items of news are fed to the papers; in most instances, the items are welcomed. For Templary publicity, our job is to attend to the feeding of such news to local papers. I urge you to do it; or to forward local items to the Grand Recorder sufficiently ahead of time for him to give a 24 hour advance release to your paper. A glossy print picture of each Commander should be available in the office of the Grand Recorder; send him one.

This year, I shall continue to urge: 1. Active Membership Committees; 2. Publicity; 3. All out support for York Rite Nights; 4. Mid Year Conclave Parade; 5. Expansion of our Educational Fund efforts; 6. Inspection activity; and 7. Commandery Attainment.

We are still a uniform body. We represent the New Testament of Masonry. We are Masonry modernized. I should like to see a Parade of plumed Knights on Sunday, May 29th, in Boston, which would visualize for New England the fact that the Spirit of the Crusaders still lives. WILL YOUR COMMANDERY BANNERS BE THERE?

Courteously yours,

Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr.
Grand Commander.

I want to express my appreciation to the members of Grand Commandery for the confidence they have placed in me by electing me Grand Treasurer. Always remember: "Templary is still on the march!" and the friendships we made during the past years I hope will continue - they will make happy milestones in our Templar affiliations. It is my desire to be received as Past Grand Commander when I attend the Inspections this coming year. Let's help make this the most outstanding Templar year we have ever had..let's cooperate in every way possible with our Grand Commander to help him obtain his objectives. With your support it can be done.

Rt. Em. Sir A. Kenneth Martin,
Grand Treasurer.

Gleanings from the September Notices of some of the constituent Commanderies:

St. Johns #1, Providence, R.I.

Presented 50 year bars for their Thomas Smith Webb medals to 2 Sir Knights. Washington #4, Newport, R.I.

Escorted St. Johns Lodge #1 to Trinity Church participating in their 200th Anniversary.

Worcester County #5, Worcester, Mass.

Balloted on 10 petitions. Invited Past Commanders to attend conclaves and rehearsals as often as they can and welcomed them to assist in the ceremonies at any time. Their notice called for a program on each of the 5 Thursdays in the month.

Springfield #6, Springfield, Mass.

A very fine message from the Commander to his Sir Knights appeared on Page 2. DeMolay #7, Boston, Mass.

Held a Public Installation of its officers.

Pilgrim #9, Lowell, Mass.

Balloted on 15 petitions.

Milford #11, Milford, Mass.

It is noted that the new Commander is a most excellent Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter.

Calvary #13, Providence, R.I.

Presented 50 year medals and 40 year medals to 5 Sir Knights.

Hugh dePayens #20, Melrose, Mass.

Noted the names of their members who attended the Triennial Conclave in San Francisco.

Berkshire #22, Pittsfield, Mass.

Reported their first big event of the year to be held on Tuesday, Nov. 20th, open to Blue Lodge members. They are to receive the R.E. Grand Commander.

Northampton #30, Northampton, Mass.

Gave statistics of their membership. 5/8 are over 65 years.

Trinity #32, Hudson, Mass.

The Commander himself brought in 4 petitions.

Coeur de Lion #34, Charlestown, Mass.

Reported their members who went on the Triennial Trip to California, and the Installation of their newly elected Commander en route.

Gethsemane #35, Newtonville, Mass.

Held another of their full form "Order of the Red Cross" with their complete cast shown in a separate program and upon 18 candidates. Also gives a list of their Senior Sir Knights and their dates of Knighting.

Olivet #36, Lynn, Mass.

A Public Installation and an entertainment for the ladies and guests.

St. Paul #40, North Adams, Mass.

Held their Annual Clam Bake.

Cambridge #42, Cambridge, Mass.

A Public Installation.

Ivanhoe #46, Gardner, Mass.

A full page message to the Sir Knights from the Commander.

Temple #48, Norwood, Mass.

A Public Installation by the incoming R. E. Grand Commander.

Reading #50, Reading, Mass.

A semi-Public Installation.

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BEHIND THE LETTERS A.A.O.N.M.S.

Every Shriner knows the meaning of the letters A.A.O.N.M.S. Sure, you say, they mean "Ancient Order Of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine." You are 100% correct, of course. But did you ever stop to think that by rearranging those same letters AAONMS we get A MASON? Does that have any meaning? Certainly every Shriner is a MASON, and while it is not anything more than an accident that the letters of this Order also can spell A MASON, we should never forget our Masonic foundation. No man can be a Shriner unless he is a Mason. He must have the 3 degrees of the Blue Lodge and additionally be a Knight Templar or a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason.

Orange #45 - The following newspaper article was sent in by Sir Knight Herbert M. Johnson, Jr., newly installed Generalissimo, requesting its publication in "THE TEMPLAR"; (this we do gladly and hope other Commanderies will send us similar articles.)

"The Masonic Hall, Orange, Mass. was the scene of impressive ceremonies on Friday evening, Oct. 14, when Sir Knight William S. Hamilton, R.E.P.G.C., assisted by Sir Knight Stephen G. Wooliver, E.P.C., installed the new officers of Orange Commandery #45. L. Percy Goodspeed succeeded W. Clifford Furbush as Commander. Other elected officers installed were: Herbert M. Johnson, Jr., Generalissimo; Earl L. Shaw, Captain-General; Cyril E. Brubaker, Sr. Warden; Philip H. Collen, Jr. Warden; Mark A. Jackson, Prelate; E.P.C. Joseph E. Prentiss, Recorder and E.P.C. Henry A. White, Treasurer. The installation was semi-public and was open to Master Masons and their lady friends. It was the first time in the minds of those present that Orange Commandery has had such an installation. The hall was well filled with guests, much to the pleasure of all concerned. In the minds of the officers the installing officers did a very remarkable job. Orange Commandery feels proud to have had such able men to do the work. At the conclusion of the work, fitting tribute was paid to the late Sir Knight Arlan M. Spencer, R.E.P.G.C., who was a Past Commander of Orange Commandery. His inspiration will be greatly missed by those who knew him. In his remarks to all present that evening, the new Commander said that the work during the coming year will be dedicated to its missing member. He was also a very dear friend of our new Commander."

Gleanings from the October Notices of some of the constituent Commanderies:

Boston #2, Boston, Mass.

Sensational announcement of their Testimonial Dinner to the newly elected R.E.G.C. Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr., on Wednesday, November 2nd, and their 6th annual theatre party.

Springfield #6, Springfield, Mass.

Acted as escort to the Masonic brothers and members of the Men's Club of Trinity Methodist Church at a Masonic breakfast.

DeMolay #7, Boston, Mass.

Balloted upon 16 candidates.

Holy Sepulchre #8, Pawtucket, Mass.

The Commanders Column on Page 2 contains many items of interest to his members.

Milford #11, Milford, Mass.

Announces their 90th anniversary and York Rite Nite on Nov. 4th. They affiliated a Past Commander from another state. (Can other Commanderies follow suit?)

Calvary #13, Providence, R.I.

Holds their 1400th stated conclave. The Commander has many subjects covering the entire page of newsy items.

Old Colony #15, Abington, Mass.

Entertained with a sound film "Shipways;" construction methods of ship-building.

Bethany #17, Lawrence, Mass.

A degree team of Eminent Past Commanders performed the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross.

Winslow Lewis #18, Salem, Mass.

50th Installation of Sir Knights. George Upton as Sword Bearer and Commander of the Second Division.

Hugh dePayens #20, Melrose, Mass.

Balloted upon 13 petitions. Put on full form "Red Cross" again; new robes and makeup, a colorful and dramatic performance. The R.E. Grand Commander presented citations to Eminent Commander Leslie M. Collins and E.P.C. Frank C. Greeley, Director of the Staff, for their contributions and devotion to Templary.

St. Omer #21, Dorchester, Mass.

Public Installation of officers.

Joseph Warren #26, Roxbury, Mass.

Continues to be the only Constituent Commandery to have a monthly publication which goes out to all their members with their notices. It is very interesting reading.

Narragansett #27, Westerly, R.I.

Presented 50 year medal bars to 3 Sir Knights.

Bristol #29, Attleboro, Mass.

The Commander has a full page message, a good "pep" talk.

South Shore #31, East Weymouth, Mass.

Notes the names of its members on the Triennial Trip to California.

Trinity #32, Hudson, Mass.

Reports their motion at the last meeting to move the Commandery to Clinton, Mass., was voted down.

Natick #33, Natick, Mass.

Public Installation of Officers.

Coeur de Lion #34, Charlestown, Mass.

The Sir Knights who went on the Triennial gave impromptu talks of their experiences on the trip.

Gethsemane #35, Newtonville, Mass.

Church Service and Parade in Holliston, Mass., Sunday, October 23rd, escorting the lodges and chapters in that district.

Cyprus #39, Hyde Park, Mass.

Announces their 75th Anniversary

Saturday, November 19th.

Beauseant #41, Malden, Mass.

A fine message from the Commander to his members.

Cambridge #42, Cambridge, Mass.

Balloted upon 4 Candidates.

Orange #45, Orange, Mass.

A semi-Public Installation.

Ivanhoe #46, Gardner, Mass.

Entertained by Sir Knight Howard Wickman, colored films of his Western trip.

Quincy #47, Quincy, Mass.

Announcement of the retirement of their faithful Treasurer for more than a quarter of a century - E.P.C. Otis B. Oakman.

Temple #48, Norwood, Mass.

York Rite Festival Friday, October 21st. Heads of all York Rite Bodies participated. A brand new cover for their monthly notice now appears - a masterpiece by their Warder Gordon E. Hunt.

Reading #50, Reading, Mass.

Balloted upon 9 petitions. Gave names of their members traveling to California for the Triennial Conclave. They took their Candidates to Hugh de Payens #20 in Melrose for the spectacular dramatization of the Red Cross.

"THE TEMPLAR" this year is being mailed to Commanders, Generalissimos, Captains-General, and two copies to the Recorder who should "round robin" one of them to the rest of the Commandery line Officers, and use the other copy as he so pleases, or print any part of it in his Commandery notice.

SIR KNIGHTS: Did you know that on an average for our Grand Commandery as a whole, it takes four new petitions to make a net membership of one new member?

UNIFORM LEGISLATION

This question was the one most widely discussed at the Triennial Conclave of Grand Encampment held in San Francisco September 19th to 22nd, namely, to make the uniform optional. There were so many questions asked, and so many rulings given, and so much confusion during the lengthy discussion (your Editor was there through the whole of it) that it is impossible for anyone to know just exactly what transpired and just exactly the language of the legislation as finally adopted until an opportunity is had to review the Reporter's transcript. Our own Grand Commandery Constitution requires every Constituent Commandery to provide each and every Candidate with a full Knight Templar uniform, which includes a coat, before receiving the Order of the Temple.

There is also some question here as to whether or not this is automatically continued in force. The same situation exists as to the use of deposits heretofore made for uniforms, but not already applied to that purpose. It seems reasonably certain that in no event can this money become a part of the general funds of the Constituent Commandery, but that again requires a careful study.

To sum it all up, the whole subject so far as we are concerned should remain "status quo" until we receive an official ruling from the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment; in other words, the option shall not be exercised by any Candidate or Commandery as applied to a Candidate who has been elected and who has not received the Orders.

If a Knight Templar lives the Templar life, where he is, if, through him, it is able to touch and influence his circle of acquaintances and his neighborhood, and if, in so doing it is able to transform his own life, then in him Templary has justified itself, and the Commandery which has helped to inspire him and shape his character with the principles and spirit of Templary has to that extent carried forward the Fraternity's work in the world. After all, no Commandery exists to serve itself; it exists to serve Masonry; if it can do that outside the Asylum as well as inside it, no man can object to its course without objecting to the cause of the Fraternity itself.

CONGREGATION	SEPT.	OCT.
St. Johns	2	2
Boston	3	8
Newburyport	3	1
Washington	-	-
Worcester County	10	2
Springfield	2	3
Delcay	-	16
Holy Sepulchre	-	-
Pilgrim	15	3
Palestine	-	-
Milford	2	2
St. Bernard	3	2
Calvary	-	4
Haverhill	-	-
Old Colony	-	-
Sutton	-	-
Bethany	-	3
Winslow Lewis	-	1
Jerusalem	-	1
Hugh de Payens	-	13
St. Omer	-	1
Berkshire	1	-
Conn. Valley	1	-
Woonsocket	-	-
Godfrey de Bouillon	-	-
Joseph Warren	-	-
Narragansett	-	-
Bristol	-	2
Northampton	-	1
South Shore	-	-
Trinity	4	1
Natick	-	-
Coeur de Lion	-	-
Gethsemane	2	4
Olivet	-	-
Athol	-	-
Bay State	1	1
Cyprus	-	-
St. Paul	-	-
Beauscant	-	4
Cambridge	1	4
Bethlehem	-	-
Orange	1	-
Ivanhoe	-	-
Quincy	-	1
Temple	1	1
St. Andrew	-	2
Reading	-	9
T. S. Webb	-	-
Sir Galahad	-	-
Winthrop	-	-
Total	52	92

	ACCUMULATIVE			
	1940	1949	1948	1947
Sept.	52	53	48	38
Oct.	144	128	129	94
Nov.		186	202	152
Dec.		276	264	223
Jan.		377	328	292
Feb.		477	405	390
Mar.		550	491	477
Apr.		672	565	548
May		727	676	605
June		773	705	656

ST. KNIGHTS:

We are off on a good start for another good year. Let us all watch closely the controllable losses.

Attend your BLUE LODGE, CHAPTER and COUNCIL regularly and keep an eye out for prospective candidates. Get all the publicity you can in your local papers, tell them what is going on each month. This improves public relations and helps Membership growth.

FRANK H. WILSON, P.G.C.
CHAIRMAN